



**Steven K. Young, Director**

### **CMS Announces Web-Based MDS Training Program**

DES MOINES, IOWA (December 22, 2006) – The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has launched a web-based training program (WBT) for long-term care staff responsible for assessing residents in Medicare and/or Medicaid certified nursing homes. The Minimum Data Set (MDS) 2.0 WBT is a comprehensive training tool designed to provide clinicians and other interdisciplinary professionals with detailed instructions on completing the Long-Term Care Resident Assessment Instrument (RAI), MDS 2.0.

The information contained in the Revised Long-Term Care Facility Resident Assessment Instrument User's Manual, MDS version 2.0 is presented in an interactive and easily navigated manner in the web-based training program. The online training covers the following main topic areas:

- Overview of the RAI
- The Assessment Schedule for the RAI
- Item-by-Item Guide to the MDS
- Completing the Resident Assessment Protocols & Linking the Care Plan
- Submission and Correction of the MDS Assessment
- Medicare Skilled Nursing Prospective Payment System (SNF/PPS)

The training tools include glossary, topic index, search feature, resources, references and additional links. Navigation controls include a navigation bar, menu screens, sidebar index and a course map. User completion data is recorded so individual users can see their progress through the training. Extensive tutorials and help are available for users wishing to discover more about how to use the Web site or who encounter difficulties.

Also, the RAI/MDS Training Web site contains authentication that the new user is in the United States. When a new user registers on the Web site, he or she will be sent an e-mail with a link to click on that will complete the registration process. Users must ensure that pop-up blockers are set to allow the use of the link in the verification e-mail. For questions regarding this Web-based training program, contact Rosemary Dunn at 410-786-1372 or e-mail [Rosemary.Dunn@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Rosemary.Dunn@cms.hhs.gov).

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*MDS Web-Based Training Program*

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